

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit that no prohibited new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment and that claims 13 to 25 are drawn to the same invention as claims 1-12 of International Application PCT/FR99/02827. The changes to the claims represent changes in formalities so as to bring the claims into compliance with the rules of practice in the United States, such as: "use" claims are not a recognized category of invention (see original claims 8-12); to provide established claim terminology to describe the intended scope of the claims, i.e. incorporation of the terms "comprising" and "wherein" rather than "containing" and "characterized in that" (see claims 2, 4 and 6); to avoid optional language such as "and/or" (original claim 1) which is not common practice for claims in U.S. patent applications and to correct grammar such as noun placement and tense (see all of the original claims). These changes do not narrow the claimed subject matter presented and examined in the corresponding International Application.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Elizabeth C. Weimar
Elizabeth C. Weimar
Reg. No. 44,478

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MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS
1800 M. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036-5869
(202) 467-7812